Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Initiative

aka Community-Based Collaborative Prevention Services
Fiscal Year 2002 Outcomes¹

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention (0-3) is an innovative, state-sponsored, collaborative, community-based initiative aimed at developing an integrated system of services for Michigan families with children ages 0-3 who are at risk of child abuse and neglect. 0-3 serves our more vulnerable populations, children at risk for developing disabling conditions due to child abuse and neglect. These children and families are typically not eligible for services in most human service agencies.

Every day in Michigan:

- ◆200 families are referred to Children's Protective Services.
- ◆47 families have substantiated reports of child abuse and or neglect. 17 of these families have previously had at least one substantiated report.
- ◆12 children are placed in out of home placement, only 7 of the 12 are adopted.
- ◆Over 10,000 children are in foster care.

Every day this 0-3 Funding:

- ◆Screens 50 families who are at-risk of abuse and neglect.
- ◆Provides 109 families and their children ages 0-3 with home visits.
- Supports 20 children to receive wellchild visits from professionals.
- Supports 24 children to receive ageappropriate immunizations.

2002 Child and Family Outcomes

- Of the families participating in 0-3 Secondary Prevention, 50% had substantiated abuse and neglect referrals prior to participating in the program and 9% had substantiated abuse and neglect referrals during participation.²
- In counties with 0-3 funding, the number of children age 0-3 in out of home placements decreased 9.61% from September 1999 to September 2002 as compared to a minimal .52% decrease in counties that did not have 0-3 Secondary Prevention funded services.³
- 100 % of the families enrolled in 0-3 funded programs reported their parenting skills had improved as a result of the services provided.
- 100% of participating families surveyed report being satisfied with 0-3 services.

Prepared in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Family Independence Agency, the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Children's Trust Fund and the Michigan Public Health Institute.

²Data provided by 0-3 program sites to the Michigan Public Health Institute, 2002.

³State of Michigan Family Independence Agency (2003, January 13). Children's Services Management Information System (CSMIS) data file. Present in agency memo, January 24, 2003.

What is 0-3 prevention?

The 0-3 initiative serves children and families who are **at risk of child abuse and neglect**. These families have at least one or more risk factors, known to have a high likelihood of leading to abuse and neglect, and are not currently involved with children's protective services. Examples of the risk factors for families may include: living in poverty, multiple crises or stresses, a history of abuse and neglect, mental illness, infants with chronic illness, low birth weight, or drug-exposure.

A conservative estimate of the total direct and indirect costs for child abuse and neglect is estimated to be over \$94 billion dollars nationally.

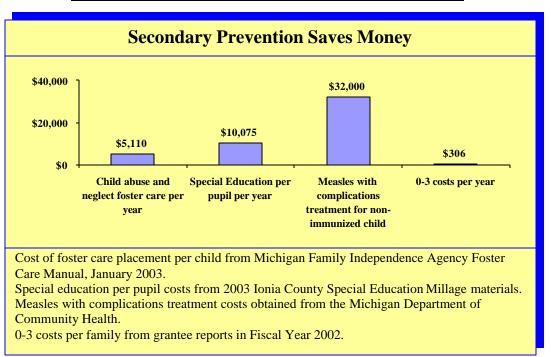
Fromm & Suzette. 2002. "Total Annual Costs of Child Abuse and Neclect in the United States: Statistical Evidence."



How is 0-3 Funded

In FY 2002, 0-3 was supported collaboratively by funds from the Michigan Department of Education (\$2 million) and the Family Independence Agency (\$4 million) totaling \$6 million dollars. In 2001, \$7.75 million dollars was appropriated for 0-3 and funded 64 programs in 63 of Michigan's 83 counties. In 2002, a loss of \$1.75 million from the Department of Community Health budget caused a reduction in the number of programs funded from 64 to 42. Currently, the budget remains at \$6 million dollars. A competitive statewide bid process selected the remaining programs. Grantees must use service models proven to be successful in improving outcomes for children and families and participate in local and state evaluations to measure the effectiveness of 0-3 service projects.

What is the cost/benefit of 0-3 services?



The average cost per family participating in the 0-3 Secondary Prevention funded services in 2002 was \$306.50.3

³Michigan Children's Trust Fund, December 2002.

Compelling Facts About 0-3 Programs

- A total of **18,425 families** were screened for participation in 0-3 Programs
- 100% of families served by the 0-3 are screened for risk factors related to child abuse and negelct.
- 100% of the 0-3 programs provide or connect families with other resources in the community such as
 parenting classes and support groups, health services, nutrition, mental health services, basic needs items,
 housing, etc.
- Home visitors made 39,988 visits in 46 counties
- Substantiated child abuse and neglect referrals for this age population dropped from 50% to 9% in 0-3 Secondary Prevention Programs.

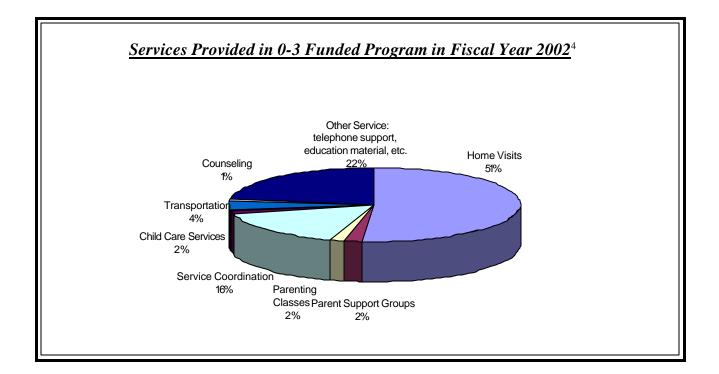


"In Michigan, more than 350 cases of child abuse and neglect are reported each day, and even more go unreported. Over two thirds of these reported victims involve our most vunerable populations...young children ages six and under."

Testimony to the Subcommittee on Select Education of the Committee on Education and Work Force, U.S. House of Representatives, August 2, 2001 by Deborah Strong, Executive Director of Michigan Children's Trust Fund and Prevent Child Abuse Michigan

All 0-3 Secondary Prevention Programs:

- Target and serve families, with children age 0-3, who have identified risk factors
- Target and serve families who do not have an active Child Protective Services case
- Operate the program based on a community plan for prevention
- Conduct an evaluation of the services
- Are voluntary



⁴Michigan Children's Trust Fund, December 2002, data collected from individual Program Registers FY02.

The 0-3 initiative promotes positive outcomes for children, families and communities. The funding allows children and their families a chance for a safer, more productive life. Families are supported to care for their infants and toddlers and help them live up to their greatest potential.

0-3 Family Success Story*

Sandra gave birth to her second child while living in downtown Muskegon in a two-room walkup, just barely making ends meet. She and Steve, the children's father, are both developmentaly disabled and were unemployed at the time. They became involved with the Muskegon Healthy Families program as a result of the risk assessment completed at the hospital where she gave birth to her baby.

Based on child developmental assessments conducted as a standard part this program, it was discovered that Sandra's children had developmental disabilities in speech and communication. They were referred to appropriate programs in the community to help them achieve their potential – in fact they have both flourished.

The family has also blossomed in the three years that they have participated in the Muskegon Healthy Families program – learning not only about child developmental milestones and how to encourage their children to achieve them, but also about budgeting/money management and how to set/achieve personal goals.

Through the support of the Healthy Families worker, the family has become a unit and grown together. Sandra and Steve moved the family to a house outside of Muskegon that they are proud of. They take good care of the house and yard. Steve now has a full-time job and recently purchased a new van for the family.

The overall environment in which these children are being raised is one that is an example to all. Sandra and Steve have overcome their struggles and accepted a helping hand when necessary. Now they are giving back through their self-reliance and concern over the health and happiness of their children.

*Names have been changed to protect the privacy of the family.

The enabling legislation for the initiative in P. A. 294 of 1998 (Family Independence Agency), P. A. 121 of 2001 (State School Aid), and Public Act 296 of 2000 (Community Health) states that the 0-3 funds shall be used for grants to support community-based, collaborative, secondary prevention services designed to:

- Foster positive parenting skills
- Improve parent/child interaction
- Promote access to needed community services
- Increase local capacity to serve families at risk
- Improve school readiness
- Support healthy family environments that discourage alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use

Healthy Start Oakland Program

The use of the emergency room was low among participants in Healthy Start (6.2%). As emergency room use declined, use of physician visits related to illness increased, indicating that mothers began to use more cost-efficient office medical care instead of crisis oriented emergency medical care. These trends occurred in contrast to a 21% rate of emergency room use among the short term intervention group, and a 42% rate of emergency room use among the control group.

-Cynthia Schellenbach, Ph.D. Oakland University Five Year Outcome Report of the Healthy Start Oakland Program

Oakland County Fussy Baby Program Outcomes

- ◆Mothers showed significant decreases in stress from mothering.
- ◆Mothers showed significant decreases in stress from attending to the challenging needs of infants with regulatory disturbance.
- Mothers' positive perceptions of their children significantly increased, as did the quality of the home environment.
- ◆The children's symptoms of regulatory disturbance were significantly reduced.
 - -Final Report: The Fussy Baby Program, Oakland Family Services. 2002. Schellenbach and Carniak